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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/659,203	09/10/2003	Joy Sawyer Bloom	AD6930 US NA	5565

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E I DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY
LEGAL PATENT RECORDS CENTER
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4417 LANCASTER PIKE
WILMINGTON, DE 19805

EXAMINER

WOODWARD, ANA LUCRECIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1711

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/03/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/659,203

Applicant(s)

BLOOM, JOY SAWYER

Examiner

Ana L. Woodward

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1711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on January 10, 2007
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2-5 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 6-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 2-5 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected group, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on May 17, 2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1 and 6-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 5,789,523 (George et al) as per reasons of record.

4. Claims 1 and 6-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 5,844,036 (Hughes) as per reasons of record.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed January 10, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive with respect to the rejections based on George et al and Hughes.

Applicants argue that any rejection based on 5-component systems or more is inappropriate in light of the restriction requirement mandated between a 4-component system and a 5-component system. It is noted, however, that the present claims, by virtue of the open-ended "comprising" terminology, are open to the inclusion of unspecified materials and, as such, the rejections of record based on 5-component systems or more are appropriate.

Applicants' argument, that George et al teach compositions that are outside the scope of the presently claimed compositional amounts governing the non-polyimide components, is not well taken. Clearly, the 30% by weight disclosed by patentees falls within the presently claimed scope of 50% by weight or less. As to patentees' example 29 of the reference, while it does not contain a melt processable resin, the exemplified polyimide would appear to correspond to applicants' thermoplastic polymer (per claim 6). In any event, it is within the general disclosure of the reference to further incorporate a melt processable polyester or polyamide. As regards, the graphite content, it is maintained that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have utilized less than 20% weight of said component, as used in many of the other examples, in accordance with the ultimate properties desired.

Regarding Hughes, it is maintained that the claimed combination of components is within the sphere of obviousness encompassed by the general disclosure of the reference to one having ordinary skill in the art. For example, it would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have substituted the calcium terephthalate powdered filler of examples G and H with mica as per these materials being alternatives as the immobilizing filler component (see, e.g., claim 14). Accordingly, absent evidence of unusual or unexpected results for using mica in place of the exemplified calcium terephthalate powdered filler, no patentability can be seen in the claimed subject matter. Applicants argue that the reference does not teach a composition having a coefficient of friction of 0.20 or less. While patentees may not expressly disclose said specific property, they do recognize that graphite confers lubricity and wear resistance properties to their composition and, as such, the presently claimed coefficient of friction property would appear to flow naturally from following the suggestion of the prior art. That is, applicants' recognition of

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said property is tantamount only to finding a property of an old composition and cannot be the basis for patentability when the differences would otherwise be obvious. See *Ex parte Obiaya*, 227 USPQ 58, 60 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985).

As to the terms volume percent versus weight percent, it is not seen that the compositional amounts used by the reference would differ from those presently claimed.

6. Applicant's arguments filed January 10, 2007 have been fully considered to the extent that the rejection over Hellstern-Burnell et al has been withdrawn. Specifically, there is no basis upon which to conclude that use of metal-coated graphite fibers would have any effect on the coefficient of friction for the composition described therein.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

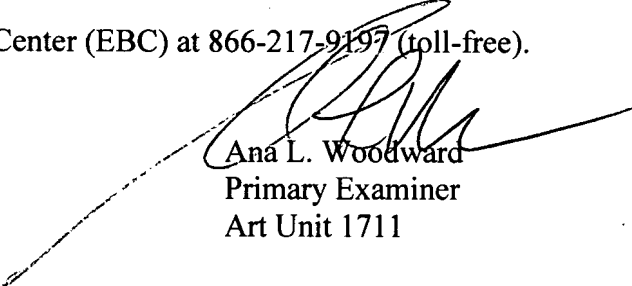
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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ana L. Woodward whose telephone number is (571) 272-1082.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James J. Seidleck can be reached on (571) 272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Ana L. Woodward
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1711

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